

**MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE BOOK**

**SPECIAL STUDY SESSION  
April 21, 2003**

The Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County, Arizona convened at 9:00 a.m., April 21, 2003, in the Board of Supervisors' Conference Room, 301 W. Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona, with the following members present: Fulton Brock, Chairman; Andy Kunasek, Vice Chairman; Don Stapley and Max W. Wilson. Absent: Mary Rose Wilcox. Also present: Norma Risch, Deputy Clerk of the Board; Shirley Million, Administrative Coordinator; David Smith, County Administrative Officer; and Paul Golab, Deputy County Attorney.

**DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Discussion of the development of a 20-year comprehensive, performance-based, multimodal and coordinated regional transportation plan by the Transportation Policy Committee of the Maricopa Association of Governments.

Tom Buick, Director of Transportation and County Engineer  
Mike Sabatini, P.E., Assistant County Engineer

Mr. Buick said they would report on proceedings at the last TPC (Transportation Policy Committee) meeting and review the legislative timeline and process for the Regional Transportation Plan. He indicated that there has already been significant progress on HB2292 to extend the half-cent sales tax for transportation. He expects few problems when this bill reaches the floor of the House and Senate for deliberation.

Mr. Sabatini reviewed various sections of the RTP (Regional Transportation Plan) as presented in the MAG (Maricopa Association of Governments) draft working paper of April 8. He included details, as they have been worked out to date, and compared the three modeling scenarios "A", "B" and "C" determined by the committee.

Discussion ensued on topics that included suggested interactional freeway and parkway connectors located on the I-17, 303, 202, Carefree Highway, Lake Pleasant and the Sonoran Preserve. Also discussed were conflicts between the County, Phoenix and other government entities on the type of connectors needed for the intended development of various areas in the region. The differences stem primarily from parochialism on the different land-use, zoning and traffic-control perspectives and policies that are desired, planned, or already underway by the various government entities.

The increasing congestion of Sky Harbor Airport was also discussed. Chairman Brock said there was a great need for an airport to service the West Valley and the Casa Grande airport "specs" were reviewed. Supervisor Stapley said that Phoenix is interested in working with the County to move air cargo flights to the Williams Gateway Airport in the East Valley in partnership with Sky Harbor. International travel would remain at Sky Harbor.

**~ Supervisor Kunasek left the meeting ~**

Mr. Sabatini discussed things common to all three scenarios and brought several "neglected" items into the discussion. These included light rail, mass transit, regional arterial grid systems, ADOT'S role, the need for additional funding in the long-term, performance criteria and the need for a mechanism for performance evaluation. Also discussed was the need for discussion on performance based planning alternatives now to make certain of the quality of decisions that are included rather than waiting until the committee is further along in the planning cycle.

**~ Supervisor Kunasek returned to the meeting ~**

**MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE BOOK**

**SPECIAL STUDY SESSION  
April 21, 2003**

Mr. Buick said that ADOT is reluctant to engage in metro-issues and prefers to take a passive, reactive role. They understand the problems but feel it is not "their issue" to solve. This places them in a secondary role when it comes to planning a regional transportation system. He believes there is a void between state-wide, interstate and parochial interests and that the Board of Supervisors could best help solve these issues since the Maricopa County Supervisorial districts encompass a large regional presence in the State and Maricopa County also contains the largest population and growth potential. He said that because of these things the Supervisors understand the issues from a regional standpoint and can articulate them well. But, he said, the leadership role would have to be fought for.

**~ Supervisor Stapley left the meeting ~**

Mr. Sabatini spoke of the desired broad goals for a system that may be identified as both visionary and practical. He indicated that when the plan is communicated to the public these goals need to be articulated in a way that is easy and readily identifiable as being responsive to the values of the region. He said a satisfying goal is the result of wise planning for a good objective and evaluating performance measures honestly and accurately. He indicated that objectives are the more intermediate results achieved in reaching a goal and are typically easy to measure. Performance measures are used to assess the relative strengths and weaknesses, and help provide insights into the "tradeoffs" necessary in reaching a desired goal.

**~ Supervisor Stapley returned to the meeting ~**

Mr. Sabatini discussed the RTP goals, objectives and performance measures included in this draft of the Plan, as follows:

- Goal 1: System preservation and safety
- Goal 2: Access and mobility
- Goal 3: Sustaining the environment
- Goal 4: Accountability and planning

Discussion ensued on this and led to probable dates for input by the County and other involved jurisdictions. The first draft of the Regional Transportation Plan is due on July 16 and the final draft in late September.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fulton Brock, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Norma Risch, Deputy Clerk of the Board